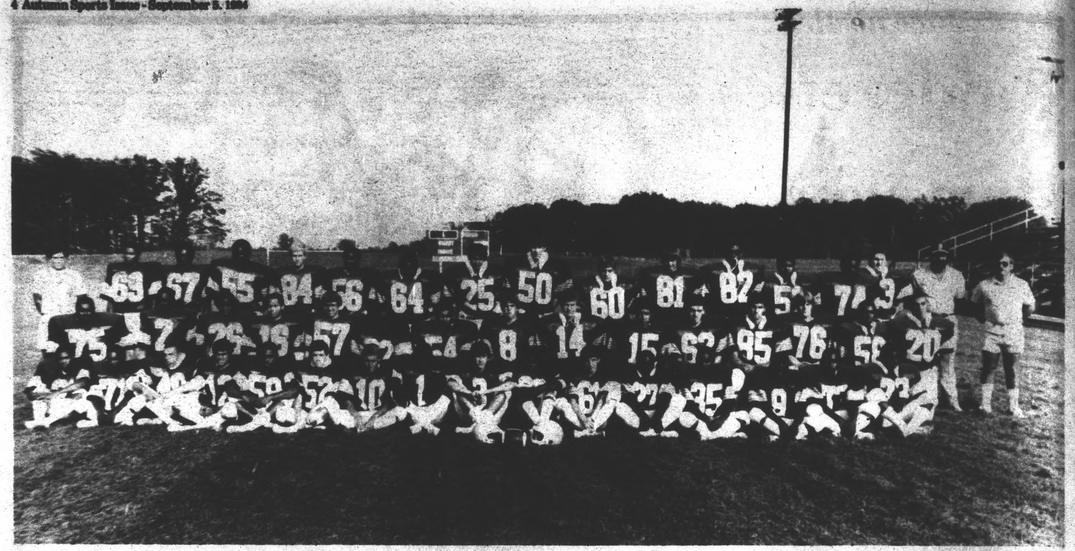

## The 1984 Varsity Knight Football Team

# *Buckingham squad is hefty, strong*

In 1983, the Buckingham County High School Knights came of age in the Group AA Seminole District.

The Knights, a physically powerful team, compiled a 7-3 record in the district, finishing behind district co-champions Brookville and William Campbell, who recorded identical 8-1-1 seasons.

The 1984 season could be even brighter for Buckingham, depending on how quickly the team's offensive backfield gels.

"We lost our entire backfield from last year," comments Knights coach Pete Gowin. Gone from 1983's offensive backfield are quarterback Will Gowin, fullback Darin Perkins, tailback Shawn Woodson, and wingback Darrell Smith.

Seeking to fill the void at quarterback this season will be Rusty Lang, a 6-0, 175-pound junior.

Chris Booker, a 6-1, 185-pound sophomore, will start at the tailback position, Gowin says.

Booker "may be the fastest kid in the district," according to the coach. "He won the 100 and 200 meter events in track last year, as a freshman," he adds.

In the wingback slot, Knights fans can expect to see freshman Craig Chambers this season. Chambers, at 5-9 and 165 pounds, was last year's most valuable player on the Buckingham junior varsity grid squad.

Rounding out the Buckingham offensive backfield at fullback this season will be Robert Ross, a six-foot, 185-pound junior. Ross has some varsity experience, having played four games last season at the wingback position, according to the coach.

While experience in the backfield may be a problem early in the season for Buckingham, the team's offensive line will not suffer from a lack of playing time.

Spencer Morgan, at 6-5, 205 pounds, returns this year to play center, a position for which he earned first-team all-district honors, and honorable mention all-region honors in 1983.

Rodney Banks, a 5-8, 236-pounder who plays left guard, will also return to play for the Knights this season.

Three-year starter Earl Carey, at 273 pounds the Knights' biggest player, is also back at his spot at left tackle.

The right tackle position will be occupied by Gregory Williams, a 6-4, 245 pound senior.

And Robert Gormus, at six feet and 230 pounds, will start at the right guard position. Gormus pulled duty at the fullback post last year for the Knights.

Lawerence Jones, a 6-2, 185-pound senior, will cap the line at the tight end spot for Buckingham this season, and Troy Dunn, a six-foot, 180-pound senior, will alternate with sophomore Daniel Davis at split end.

In the defensive backfield, Chris Booker will start at the free safety position. Strong safety will be Ricky Jackson, a 5-9, 155-pound junior.

Robert Ross will play at the weak cornerback spot, and Craig Chambers will fill the strong cornerback position.

Robert Gormus and Rodney Banks will play at the inside linebacker posts for the Knights, and James Walker, a 222-pound senior will play at nose guard.

Bernard Gilliam, a 255-pound senior will be the Knights' weak-side tackle in 1984, and Earl Carey will fill the strong-side tackle position.

Lonny Shumaker, a 6-1, 175-pound senior, will play at strong-side end for Buckingham, and Lawrence Jones will anchor the line at the weak-side end.

Gowin notes that his

(Continued on page 10)

## Knight Varsity Grid Roster

| NO. | PLAYER | POS. | HT. | WT. | GR. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Jesse White | S.E. | 5'11" | 140 | Soph. |
| 2 | Steve White | S.E. | 6'0" | 153 | Jr. |
| 3 | Daniel Davis | S.E. | 5'10" | 141 | Soph. |
| 8 | Paul Harris | T.E. | 6'0" | 154 | Jr. |
| 9 | Stanley Jones | WB | 5'5" | 122 | Soph. |
| 10 | G.R. Cyrus | QB | 5'10" | 142 | Soph. |
| 12 | Shane Shumaker | QB | 5'10" | 134 | Soph. |
| 14 | Rusty Lang | QB | 6'0" | 175 | Jr. |
| 15 | Harvey Jones | T.E. | 5'9" | 139 | Jr. |
| 16 | Ricky Jackson | TB | 5'9" | 155 | Jr. |
| 20 | Robert Ross | FB | 6'0" | 165 | Jr. |
| 21 | Junior Dove | WB | 5'5' | 138 | Soph. |
| 40 | Chris Booker | TB | 6'1" | 185 | Soph. |
| 23 | Craig Chambers | WB | 5'9" | 165 | Fresh. |
| 25 | Lonny Shumaker | FB | 6'1" | 175 | Sr. |
| 67 | Kelly Jones | G | 5'11" | 165 | Sr. |
| 27 | Percy Ayers | TB | 5'5" | 155 | Soph. |
| 26 | McCarthy Gause | FB | 5'10" | 166 | Jr. |
| 35 | Scott Gregory | FB | 5'8" | 162 | Soph. |
| 22 | Arthur Jackson | TB | 5'8" | 150 | Jr. |
| 50 | Spencer Morgan | C | 6'5" | 205 | Sr. |
| 51 | James Walker | C | 5'9" | 222 | Sr. |
| 52 | D.D. Edwards | G | 5'6" | 134 | Soph. |
| 53 | Robert Gormus | G | 6'0" | 230 | Sr. |
| 54 | Sam Stanton | T | 5'9" | 216 | Jr. |
| 55 | Gregory Williams | T | 6'4" | 245 | Sr. |
| 56 | Robert Woodson | G | 5'8" | 140 | Sr. |
| 57 | Mike Gormus | G | 5'8" | 145 | Jr. |
| 58 | Curtis Johnson | G | 5'7" | 147 | Jr. |
| 59 | Allen Carter | G | 6'0" | 185 | Soph. |
| 60 | Dwayne Davidson | G | 5'7" | 155 | Sr. |
| 61 | Randy Toney | G | 5'8" | 145 | Soph. |
| 62 | Allen Atkinson | C | 6'0" | 198 | Jr. |
| 63 | Bernard Gilliam | T | 5'11" | 255 | Sr. |
| 64 | Rodney Banks | G | 5'8" | 236 | Sr. |
| 69 | Rodell Grimes | T | 6'1" | 195 | Sr. |
| 71 | J.D. Jones | G | 5'6" | 148 | Soph. |
| 72 | Pat Ross | G | 6'0" | 151 | Soph. |
| 73 | Clifford Foster | T | 5'9" | 182 | Soph. |
| 74 | Earl Carey | T | 5'8" | 273 | Sr. |
| 75 | Ernest Spradley | T | 5'8" | 216 | Jr. |
| 76 | F.J. Ragland | G | 6'0" | 210 | Jr. |
| 80 | Robert Holman | TE | 6'0" | 173 | Sr. |
| 81 | Troy Dunn | SE | 6'0" | 181 | Sr. |
| 82 | Lawrence Jones | TE | 6'2" | 185 | Sr. |
| 83 | Robert F. Holman | SE | 5'6" | 135 | Soph. |
| 84 | Kyle Bolt | TE | 5'11" | 146 | Sr. |
| 85 | Darren Noble | TE | 6'0" | 180 | Jr. |

Head Coach: Pete Gowin; Assistant Head Coach: Avery Goodwin; Assistant Coach: Oscar Holman; Captains: Spencer Morgan, Robert Gormus, Earl Carey, Rodney Banks.



*Experience needed*

# Raiderettes start slow

THE 1984 APPOMATTOX COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL RAIDERETTE BASKETBALL TEAM: (front row, from left) - Co-Captains Beverly Bennett and Sally Coleman; (back row, from left) - Head Coach Mary Tolley, Aretha Johnson, Kim Osborne, Darlene Ferguson, Delores Smith, Tracie Moore, Jennifer Worley, Angie Banks, Janice Foster, Jewel McCoy, managers Susan LeGrand and Veronica Watkins. (Photo by Bill Sherrod)

With four key players gone from last year's starting lineup, the Appomattox County High School varsity Raiderettes basketball team is suffering from a lack of playing experience.

Forwards Sandra Watkins and Lisa Pannell, center Kaye Brown and guard Nina Abbitt, all central figures in last year's Raiderette squad, are missing from the 1984 version of the Appomattox team.

Watkins and Abbitt together accounted for almost 30 points per game last season, and the loss of that scoring punch showed in the first two games the Raiderettes played last week. Last Tuesday evening, Appomattox lost to Liberty, 38-26, and Thursday, the Raiderettes fell to Buckingham, 57-39.

The Raiderettes do have some experience in returnees Sally Coleman, a forward, and Bev Bennett, who plays guard.

The four other girls returning from last year's squad - senior Delores Smith (forward), juniors Tracie Moore (center) and Janice Foster (forward), and sophomore Aretha Johnson (guard) - saw limited playing time for the Raiderettes last season.

Five new faces will be seen on the floor during Appomattox girls' basketball games this season.

Jennifer Worley, a junior, is a transfer student pulling duty at the center position for Appomattox this season.

And up from last year's junior varsity squad are Angie Banks, a junior who plays center and forward; and sophomore guards Kim Osborne, Darlene Ferguson, and Jewel McCoy.

"Inexperience is definitely our biggest problem at this point in the season," says Raiderette coach Mary Tolley.

"We had a hard time coping with the press in the first two games," notes Tolley, "We're not getting beat on defense, but we had too many turnovers. We had 16 turnovers in the first game, and 19 in the second. Our opponents were getting the ball from us on offense, then scoring on fast breaks."

"Also," the coach adds, "out of 11 girls on the team, I've been playing nine. I haven't been able to come up with a starting five combination yet this year."

While the Raiderettes have good height this season, they are not a particularly quick team. But, according to Tolley, "they run well, and they

(Continued on page 13)

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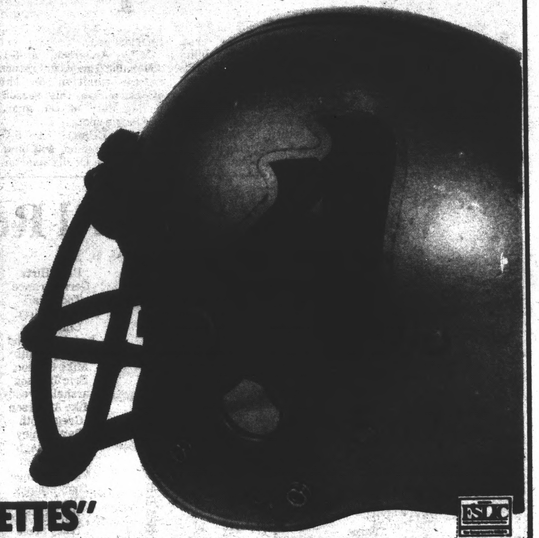

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